

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-9 and 15-24 have been cancelled. New claim 25 is the only independent claim in the case. It combines amended claim 1 with features from original claims 9 and 16-18. Claims 2, 5 and 10-14 remain in the application. They now depend directly or indirectly from new claim 25.

New claim 25 specifies that a solution containing an acid is admixed with sodium chlorite to make a reactive mixture. The second solution is acidic to convert the sodium chlorite into chlorine dioxide but it remains unaffected in the reacted mixture. As a result, the second solution functions as mineral antiscalant in the water system. Claim 25 also specifies the use of sodium molybdate as a catalyst to enhance conversion of the sodium chlorite into chlorine dioxide. These just discussed features are not disclosed by either Christensen et al or Schroeder et al. Accordingly, without these teachings in the prior art, there is an insufficient factual basis for a rejection under 35 USC §103(a).

Claims 2, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 add additional features that are not disclosed by the prior art patents. For these reasons, and also for the reasons that claim 25 is patentable, claims 2, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 are patentable over the prior art.

The Examiner is asked to amend the proposed amendments for the reasons that they add no new issues of patentability not previously in the case and the result in the claims remain in the case being allowable.

Respectfully submitted,

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